



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter March 2009

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◆ **The EHRS Project Update:** The EHRS Project Team from the Agency office attended the [Medgate Users Group Meeting](#) held in Miami, Florida February 15-18. Medgate conducted training, workshops, and product enhancement sessions for Medical, IH, and Case Management related to software release 6.0. In addition, an overview of the next generation version, Medgate GX, which is currently in development and internal testing at Medgate was conducted. This forum provided the opportunity to learn more about the current system and meet other users who have experience with using the software. In lieu of an [EHRS ViTS](#), a webex demonstration and teleconference on the Medical module functionality is scheduled in March. Based on the comments we received from the last 2 ViTS

demonstrations, it was determined it was easier for the viewing audience to see the demonstrations from their own office.



◆ **Mayo Clinic EmbodyHealth 2009:** This year's Campaign will run through 12/15/2009. The engagement data reflects employee participation including JSC with a strong presence. JSC is working closely with their contractors to provide additional incentives. A presentation on their efforts is scheduled for the September HPW ViTS. The single authorized Agency-wide email was released on 1/26/09. For the remainder of the year, we depend on center-specific communication and outreach. Total number of completed HA:

- 4,271 Total Health Assessments completed
- 1,229 Civil Service Employees
- 2,926 Contract Employees
- 116 Other, Spouse, Children



We have completed the necessary documents to launch our first of the two Campaigns, My Weight Solution (MWS), in March; Walk to Wellness will be offered in September. If you were unable to attend either of the two MWS training Webex presentations please contact [Mae Hafizi](#) with any questions.

◆ **2009 Occupational Health (OH) Meeting Headed to Cleveland and NASA Glenn:** The Annual OH Meeting is not classified as a Conference per NASA guidance, and has officially been moved to NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, OH, but the week remains July 13-17. The Meeting is scheduled to be held at the Ohio Aerospace Institute facility where the [NASA Safety Center \(NSC\)](#) currently resides. At this time, a number of hotel properties near GRC are being identified to house attendees. Continuing education credits in the various OH disciplines will continue to be offered to all attendees. The meeting agenda, registration and additional information will be available in April on the [NASA OH Website](#). We are hopeful many of you will make plans to attend!



◆ 2009 Safety Directors and Occupational Health Managers Meeting at KSC:

The Office of Safety and Mission Assurance, Safety Assurance and Requirements Division, is sponsoring the [NASA Safety Directors and Occupational Health Managers](#) meeting at Kennedy Space Center, Florida, March 24 - 27, 2009. The meeting will present the status of Agency safety and occupational health programs and policies, as well as address current topics with an emphasis on the areas of health and safety. The meeting will also provide a forum to discuss the synergy between health and safety programs and



developed solutions based on the best practices of the Centers.

◆ **OSHA Teams with NIOSH and NHCA:** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA) [Alliance](#), which was signed [February 21, 2008](#), focuses on helping to prevent noise-induced hearing loss from exposure to industrial noise and other environmental factors for all workers. OSHA, NIOSH and NHCA work together to achieve outreach and communication goals such as developing the Best Practice Bulletin: [Hearing Protection and Emerging Trends: Individual Fit Testing](#), posting it to the NHCA/OSHA Web page, and linking to it from the OSHA, NIOSH, and NHCA Alliance Web page.



◆ **Certification Recognition:** *Dave Rose*, IH Supervisor at JSC, Health Physicist *John Lindsay* and Industrial Hygienist, *Kyesha Jacquet*, both at SSC, recently successfully completed the Certified Safety Professional (CSP) Exam. Congratulations on obtaining this professional milestone!



◆ **Health Physics Update:** Efforts are underway to bring more training to HP professionals at less cost and less travel. We are exploring opportunities to provide 8 hours of live, focused refresher training to Laser and RF Safety Officer at their desks using WebEx technology. Discussions held with experts in laser and RF safety training and NASA HPs indicate that this is a very viable option to receive needed training when travel budgets are limited. We are planning to conduct each course in four 2-hour lecture blocks. More information will be provided as the plans develop.

◆ NASA OH Center Review Calendar:

- March 17 - 19 White Sands Test Facility

◆ Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS/Web Ex:

- EAP – March 2, 1:00-2:00 PM EST
- EHRS – March 3, 1:00-2:00 PM EST
- Environmental Health – March 11, 11:00-12:00 PM EST
- Health Promotion – March 12, 11:00-12:00 PM EST

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Send information, comments or questions to:

◆ E-mail – Bart.D.Geyer@nasa.gov ◆ Telephone – 321-867-3473

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